THE CENTRE FOR ADVANCED STUDIES IN AUSTRALIA, ASIA AND THE PACIFIC

A Research Institute in Humanities
In 2008 the Centre continued its research seminar series, augmenting this with a number of high-profile special events, as detailed elsewhere in this report. These events attracted a number of national and international visitors to the Centre, either as presenters or participants, further contributing to the strong research environment we have fostered.

It was particularly pleasing to welcome three new Curtin Fellows to the Centre this year, bringing our complement of Curtin Fellows to five.

A number of members moved on to other appointments. We thank them for their contribution and wish them well in their future capacities. The Centre’s Associateship scheme also allowed two other researchers to work with Centre members on a variety of projects.

The researcher development program was extended with sessions on a variety of research skills, statistical techniques and approaches to academic publication.

It was especially pleasing to note a doubling of research projects and publications over the already impressive results from 2007.

These and related activities will continue into and through 2009, when we will also be mounting a major national event in Canberra.

Professor Graham Seal AM
Director

The Centre for Advanced Studies in Australia, Asia and the Pacific (CASAAP), established in 2006, aims to understand the changing relationship between Australia and the countries of Asia and the Southwest Pacific. CASAAP members are drawn from a wide range of disciplines and intellectual orientations and seek to foster closer links between Australian, Asian and Pacific studies.

The Centre’s values stem from the broad research traditions of the Humanities and the Social Sciences, valuing collegiality, critical analysis, intellectual engagement and the communication of knowledge throughout the academy and beyond.
**CENTrE MEMBErS**

Dr Paul Arthur (Curtin Fellow)  
Dr Dawn Bennett (Curtin Fellow)  
Prof Linda Briskman  
Prof Colin Brown  
Assoc Prof David Charnock  
Assoc Prof George Curry  
Assoc Prof Tim Dolin  
Dr Jaya Earnest  
Ms Lucy Fiske  
Dr Anne-Marie Hilsdon

Dr Chris Hubbard  
Dr Olivia Khoo (Curtin Fellow)  
Dr Gina Koczberski  
Adjunct Prof John McGuire  
Dr Alexey Muraviev  
Dr Bobbie Oliver  
Assoc Prof Bob Pokrant  
Dr Suvendrini Perera  
Dr Nonja Peters  
Prof Graham Seal

Prof Krishna Sen  
Mr Stephen Smith  
Assoc Prof John Stephens  
Assoc Prof Wanning Sun  
Dr Yasuo Takao  
Dr Miyume Tanji (Curtin Fellow)  
Dr Reena Tiwari  
Dr Angela Wardell-Johnson (Curtin Fellow)  
Dr Grace Zhang

**ASSOCIATE MEMBErS**

Ms Kate Ferguson  
Dr Caroline Fleay

**GOVERNANCE**

The Centre’s day-to-day operations are the responsibility of a management group chaired by the Director. For 2008 members were, at various times:

Professor Graham Seal (Chair)  
Associate Professor Bob Pokrant (Deputy Director and acting Director)  
Dr Suvendrini Perera  
Dr Wanning Sun  
Associate Professor George Curry  
Dr Miyume Tanji  
Dr John Stephens (Acting Director)  
Professor Linda Briskman  
Associate Professor Tim Dolin

The Centre has an Advisory Board consisting of:

Emeritus Professor Peter Reeves (Chair)  
Curtin University of Technology

Professor Brij V Lal  
Research School of Pacific and Asian Studies  
ANU

Dr Susan Maushart  
Curtin University of Technology

Mr Neville Roach  
Independent

Dr Peter Stanley  
Director Historical Research Centre  
National Museum of Australia
The Centre has three main areas of research:

- social-cultural, economic, political and environmental change in Australia, Asia and the Southwest Pacific;
- Asian, Southwest Pacific and related ethnic communities within Australia and the region, and
- changing relations between Australia, Asia and the Southwest Pacific.

Under the rubric ‘Regional Intersections’, the Centre operates a broad research agenda that provides for a range of specialist activities within a cross-disciplinary framework.

To progress these activities the Centre has developed three major research foci within which are pursued a number of core themes. Members of the Centre are mostly involved in two, sometimes three of these research themes, providing for collaborative cross-disciplinary outcomes. Each of the themes is under continual review, while the research foci are reviewed regularly to ensure ongoing relevance, to allow for emerging and innovative research developments and to accommodate membership changes within the Tier 1 group.

### Cultural Identities:

- National identity/ies
- Gender and sexuality
- Class formations
- Race and ethnicity
- Indigeneity, colonialism/post-colonialism
- Childhood
- Literature Language and Media

### Regional Transformations

- Heritage
- Tourism
- Regional development
- Health
- Social and cultural policy
- Sustainable environments
- Natural Resource Management, and sustainable livelihoods

### International and Inter-regional Relations

- Terrorism and fundamentalism
- Refugees, asylum seekers, immigration
- War and peace, memorialisation
- Transnational political and social movements
- Human rights
- Government and political systems
- Global environmental change.

Most CASAAP research is cross-disciplinary in nature, applying knowledge and insights derived from both discipline-specific and inter-disciplinary research. CASAAP members typically work in a number of cognate and/or contiguous fields, seeking to understand complex social, cultural, economic, strategic, historical and contemporary movements, issues, events, trends, many of which have extremely important consequences within, between and beyond our focus regions.

### Current Research Projects

Research activity in the Centre involves members in projects with a wide range of national and international competitive grant funders, as well as university, government, industry and community partners at state, national and international levels.

**Adapting to natural and human-induced hazards: fishers and shrimp farmers in coastal Bangladesh**

(Bob Pokrant)

A History of the Printing Industry in Western Australia

(Bobbie Oliver).

**An interdisciplinary study of literary tourism and literary subjectivity**

(Tim Dolin)

ARC Discovery project.

**Artist as Academic**

(Dawn Bennett)

Partner: University of Western Sydney.

**Australia’s Involvement in Nuclear Affairs WWII - present**

(Chris Hubbard)

**Asian Australian Cinema: History, Policy and Representation**

(Olivia Khoo).

This Project provides the first comprehensive and critical study of the history of films about Asians in Australia, by Asians in Australia, and films about Asia by Australian filmmakers.

**Australian Tunnelers of World War 1**

(Sue Summers, Graham Seal and John Stephens).

**Before the First Fleet: European Settlement of Australia pre-1788**

(Nonja Peters, Graham Seal, John Mallard, Jack Goldblatt).

Partners: Centre for International Heritage Activities, Amsterdam; Institute for Dutch History, The Hague; Institute for South East Asian and Caribbean Studies (KITLV) Leiden; University of Amsterdam Heritage Centre.
Biodiversity conservation: social values in an era of climatic challenges to resilience (Angela Wardell-Johnson)
The primary goal of this research is to enhance biodiversity conservation measures in relation to climate change and political instability.

Caring for Asylum Seekers in Australia: Bioethics and Human Rights (Linda Briskman).


Citizenship and Race in Rural and Regional Australia (Linda Briskman and Suvendrini Perera).

Colonial publishing and literary democracy in Australia (Tim Dolin).
ARC Discovery project.

Comparative Analysis of the Circulation of Literary Works in Junior & Leaving (Years 10 and 12) in Five Australian states, 1901 - 2001 (Tim Dolin).

Commercial sector/smallholder partnerships for improving incomes in the oil palm and cocoa industries in Papua New Guinea (George Curry and Gina Koczberski).
Partners: Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research, RUSSIC.

Community Participation in the Delivery of Community Infrastructure Projects in India (Reena Tiwarri, Kate Ferguson).

Contested Landscapes and Divided Communities. The Struggle for Place and Belonging in Papua New Guinea (George Curry and Gina Koczberski).
ARC Discovery Project.

Developing & Implementing an Integrated Community Education and Health Care System using a Participatory Action Research Model (Jaya Earnest). Development of an integrated community health care system in Pardi Taluka in Valsad District of Gujarat in Western India.

Developing therapeutic communities for abused Aboriginal children and their families (Linda Briskman).
A cooperative inquiry group for change through partnership Partner: Ministerial Advisory Council on Child Protection.

Dutch Australians at a Glance www.daaag.org (Nonja Peters).
Partners: Centre for International Heritage Activities, Amsterdam; Institute for Dutch History, The Hague; Institute for South East Asian and Caribbean Studies (KITLV) Leiden; University of Amsterdam Heritage Centre.

Dynamics of Democratic Representation in Defense Spending: Testing the Case of Japan (Yasuo Takao).

East Perth Power Station and the Electrification of Western Australia: Interpretation of an Historic Site (Bobby Oliver).
ARC Linkage project. Partners: National Trust of Australia (WA); State Records Office of WA; East Perth Redevelopment Authority; Western Power Corporation; Engineers Australia; Town of Vincent; East Perth Football Club; State Library of Western Australia; Unions WA; Australia Society for the Study of Labour History (Perth Branch).

English as a spoken lingua franca in ASEAN: a study of its linguistic and socio-cultural features (Grace Zhang).
ARC Discovery Project.

Flagship Union: A history of the Locomotive Engine Drivers, Firemen’s and Cleaners Union of Western Australia (LEDFCU) - 1886-1999 (Bobby Oliver).

Footsteps of the Dutch in Australia 1606-2006 (Nonja Peters).

Gallipoli 2015 (Graham Seal). Partners: Deakin University, University of Otago, University of Queensland.

Globalisation of Capitalist Development and Populist Movements in India (John McGuire).

Goans in Western Australia: Narratives and Images from a Vibrant Diaspora (Jaya Earnest). This project is being undertaken collaboratively by Centre for International Health and the Goan Overseas Association (GOA) of Western Australia. Partners: Office of Multicultural Interests in Western Australia (OMI), Goan Overseas Association of WA, Lotteries Commission of Western Australia.

Historical Archives of the RSLWA (Stephen Smith, John Stephens). Partners: RSLWA, LotteriesWest. Funded project to identify and organise the extensive records of the RSLWA relating to the state’s social and cultural history since World War 1.

History of Asian Australian Cinema: Diaspora, Policy and Ethics (Olivia Khoo).
ARC Discovery 2009-201 in conjunction with the University of Melbourne. This interdisciplinary project will develop a history of the representation of Asians in Australian cinema.

Immigration detention on Christmas Island (Linda Briskman and Michelle Dimasi). Protests by members of local Malay and Chinese communities and the impact of immigration detention on these communities.

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Immigration detention on Christmas Island (Linda Briskman and Michelle Dimasi). Protests by members of local Malay and Chinese communities and the impact of immigration detention on these communities.
Impact of Climate Change on the Margaret River Region – developing adaptation and response strategies (Angela Wardell-Johnson). The project aims to increase our understanding of climate change impacts on the Margaret River region and inform and prioritise adaptation strategies which can be undertaken at this tourism destination.

Improving Housing Outcomes for Young People Leaving State Out of Home Care (Reena Tiwari). Partners: Australian Housing and Urban Institute, RMIT.

Improving Productivity and the Participation of Youth and Women in the PNG Cocoa, Coconut and Oil Palm Industries (George Curry and Gina Koczberski). Partners: Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research, PNG Oil Palm Research Association and Cocoa and Coconut Institute of PNG.

Junction Zones: Multiethnicity in Australasia and the Pacific (Suvendrini Perera). ARC Discovery project. Partners: University of Sri Lanka; National University of Malaysia (UKM); University of the South Pacific.

LIFE - Learning Interactively for Engagement: development of an innovative teaching and learning program to meet the needs of refugee students in two Western Australian Universities (Jaya Earnest). Carrick Institute study. Partner: Murdoch University.

Living Through Terror: (Post) Trauma, (Post) Conflict and the South (Suvendrini Perera and Antonio Traverso).

Maid in China: Internal Migration and Translocal Imagination (Wanning Sun). ARC Discovery project.

Making the Transition (Dawn Bennett). Partner: West Australian Symphony Orchestra.

Manual Labourers (Dawn Bennett). This study with anthropologist Phillip Moore examines the objectification—the embodied physical activity—within that work, and the impact of the workplace upon creative agency.

Media and the Rural Migrant in China (Wanning Sun).

Migration, gender and sexuality in Southeast Asia (Anne-Marie Hilsdon). This project builds on migration and sexuality research commenced in 2002 focusing on the entanglement of sexuality with gender, class, ethnic and national identities.

Muslims, Christians, Gender and Conflict in Mindanao, The Philippines (Anne-Marie Hilsdon). This study focuses on the ways in which new religious forms, termed ‘religious nationalisms’ impact on the overall sustainability of life within communities in the Philippines and East Malaysia.

‘My Place’ - The needs of homeless youth and adequacy of service provision in Mandurah (Reena Tiwari). Curtin Strategic Grant project.

Playing Safe: An engaging Approach to Preventing Injury in Young Upper String Players (Dawn Bennett).

Power or Poison? The History and Future of Nuclear Australia (Chris Hubbard). This project undertakes an across-the-board analysis of Australia’s involvement in nuclear affairs of all kinds during the period from the end of the Second World War to date.

Power Plays: Homeland Security and Enriched Uranium (Chris Hubbard). This project’s central aim is to offer a comprehensive exploration of the effects on national/state security policy and discourse of the production, storage, transportation, safeguarding, export and use of enriched uranium and—by extension—plutonium.

Reinventing Japan: From Merchant Nation to Civic Nation (Yasuo Takao).

Remembering the Wars: Community Significance of Western Australian War Memorials (John Stephens, Graham Seal and Stephen Smith). ARC Linkage project. Partner: RSLWA.

Revitalising Rural Image Initiative (Angela Wardell-Johnson). This project aims to understand the formation and construction of rural image in Queensland. Partners: Queensland Government’s Department of Communities, Department of Local Government, Sport and Recreation, Department of Primary Industries and Fisheries, Department of Communities, and AgForce.
Service responses to elder abuse in WA: Identifying Rights-Based Practice
(Linda Briskman and Lucy Fiske). Partners: Office of the Public Advocate, Office of Senior Interests and Volunteering.

Silent Anzacs (Graham Seal). History and culture of Australian submariners since 1914. Partner: Submarine Institute of Australia.

Strategies to Enhance Well-being of Refugee Youth in Universities in Perth, Western Australia (Jaya Earnest). Healthway Project Grant, Department of Health, Western Australia.

Studies of the structure of the Australian political party system and its consequences (David Charnock). This project uses electoral survey data to explore the attitudes of Australian voters to various issues, their relationship with voting behaviour at recent federal elections and the consequences for future directions of competition between political parties and likely developments in the party system.

The Contemporary Music Program: Impact and Outcomes (Dawn Bennett). This research for the Department of Culture and the Arts (DCA) investigates the impacts and outcomes of the State’s Contemporary Music Program.

The Life and Times of Thomas Wood (Graham Seal and Dawn Bennett). National Centre for English Cultural Tradition at Sheffield University, English Folk Dance and Song Society, National Library of Australia, National Film and Sound Archive.

The Global Outlaw Hero (Graham Seal). Study of a global mythology with ongoing consequences in popular culture, politics, tourism, heritage and terrorism.

The Social History of Sport in Indonesia (Colin Brown).


Traditional Australian Narratives (Graham Seal).


Transitioning Activity Corridors: Place making and Traffic Management (Reena Tiwari). Partner: Curtin Linkage Project.

Transnational Social Movements, US Military Bases and Civil Society in the Asia Pacific Region: Okinawa and Beyond (Miyuume Tanji).

Using Multilevel Analysis to Examine Influences on Postwar Australian Federal Voting (David Charnock). ARC Discovery project.

Value frameworks of landholders and decision-makers living in peri-urban landscapes (Angela Wardell-Johnson). This survey provides an understanding of the social values and aspirations of the people living in peri-urban landscapes of SE Queensland. Partners: Centre for Rural and Regional Innovation – University of Queensland, the Queensland Government Office of Urban Management, South East Queensland Catchments Inc and UQ/ DPI Australian Council International Agricultural Research.

Venues for the Performance of Live, Original Contemporary Music in Western Australia (Dawn Bennett). This project, conducted for the Western Australian government, will ascertain the current and future venue requirements for the State of Western Australia.

Victorian narratives, Australian stories (Tim Dolin). ARC Discovery-funded study of the influence of Victorian cultural narratives on the formation of Australian identity in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries.

Western Australian Folklife Project (Graham Seal). Partner: National Library of Australia. Documenting and archiving the state’s folk traditions.

Arc Discovery-funded study of the influence of Victorian cultural narratives on the formation of Australian identity in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries.
Centre members and associates published numerous journal articles, books and reports during the year. The following list also includes publications from 2007 that appeared too late for inclusion in the 2007 Annual Report, as well as those already in press and forthcoming in 2009.

Paul Arthur

Dawn Bennett
Bennett, D. ‘Musicians’ skills and attributes: Implications for education.’ Inside, outside, downside up: Conservatoire training and musicians’ work.

Linda Briskman

Colin Brown

David Charnock

George Curry


Timothy Dolin


Jaya Earnest


Lucy Fiske

Anne-Marie Hilsden
Hilsden, A. ‘Masculinities on the Margins: Sexuality and national identity in East Malaysia.’

Gina Koczberski

Olivia Khoo
Olivia Khoo. ‘Marketing Asian-Australianness: Introduction.’

John McGuire

Alexey Muraviev

Bobbie Oliver

Suvendrini Perera


Nona Peters


Bob Pokrant


Peter Reeves


Reeves, P. ‘An entrepreneurial diaspora? Transnational space and India’s international economic expansion.’ The South Asian Diaspora. Transnational networks and changing identities.


Graham Seal


Krishna Sen


Stephen Smith

John Stephens

Wanning Sun

Yasuo Takao

Miyume Tanji

Reena Tiwari

Angela Wardell-Johnson

Grace Zhang
CCASAAP has developed a comprehensive approach to research training that transfers existing expertise within the group from those who have it to those who will benefit from it. At the same time, the approach aims to stimulate a cooperative research environment within which members may further develop their research interests and also identify potential research partners within the group.

- Program of development funding for support of primarily ARC grant applications, publications and targeted conference contributions and associated outcomes
- Ongoing workshop series relating to publication, grant-getting skills, research project management, etc.
- Mentoring available as required on individual and small group basis
- Counselling of individual researchers when required
- Hot groups (small-medium groups including both ACR/s and ECR/MCRs with focus on a specific research outcome, usually grant or book)
- Seminar program of CASAAP and visitors (with publication outcomes)
- Identification and encouragement of potential linkages, collaborations and partnerships within the group through management group knowledge of individual researcher activities and aims
- Establishment of a research monograph publication series, ‘Studies in Australia, Asia and the Pacific’

This year, workshops were held on publishing journal articles, academic book publishing, benefiting from research seminars, a four-session series on statistical techniques for Humanities research, as well as several sessions related to grantwriting. A grant development program focused on ARC applications will run from late 2008 through 2009, providing an opportunity for projects to be developed from conception through to submission, and beyond.

Centre researchers and research groups have many existing collaborations with government, industry, academia, cultural institutions and many communities within Australia, Asia and the Pacific.

Internally the Centre has representation from the following research entities:

- Australian Folklore Research Unit
- Australia Research Institute
- Australian Regional Research Unit
- Centre for Human Rights Education
- Centre for International Health
- Life Writing Research Unit
- Media Asia Research Group
- Research Unit for the Study of Societies in Change
- South Asia Research Unit

Externally the Centre has strong and enduring links with many regional, national, international institutions, including:

**National and State**

- ALCOA
- ArtsWA
- Ausdance
- Australia Council for the Arts
- Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research
- Australian Institute of Sport
- Australian National University
- Australian School of Fine Wood
- Australian Society for the Study of Labour History
- Australian Sports Commission
- Australian Strategic Policy Institute (ASPI)
- City of South Perth
- Committee for Perth
Deakin University
Department of Conservation and Environment
Department of Culture and the Arts
Department of Education and Training
Department of Planning and Infrastructure
East Perth Football Club
East Perth Redevelopment Authority
Engineers Australia
Forest Heritage Centre
Forest Products Commission
Golden Pipeline Interpretation Committee
Guildhall School of Music and Drama
Main Roads Public Transport Authority
Ministerial Advisory Council on Child Protection
Monash University
Murdoch University
Museum Victoria
National Film and Sound Archive
National Library Australia
National Museum of Australia
National Trust of Australia (WA)
Northam Army Camp Heritage
Office of Senior Interests and Volunteering
Office of the Public Advocate
Returned Services League, Western Australia
Sea Power Centre – Australia
State Library of Western Australia
State Records Office of WA
Town of Vincent
Unions Western Australia
University of Queensland
University of Western Australia
University of Western Sydney
Urban Development Institute of Australia
WA Maritime Museum
West Australian Academy of Performing Arts
West Australian Planning Commission
West Australian Symphony Orchestra
Western Power Corporation

International
Association of European Conservatoires
Association University of Amsterdam Centre for Archival Studies
Bangladesh Centre for Advanced Studies
Bangladesh Institute for Ocean Management, Anna University
Bodleian Library, Oxford University
Centre for International Heritage Activities, Amsterdam
Cocoa and Coconut Institute of Papua New Guinea
English Folk Dance and Song Society
India Bangladesh Institute of Development Studies
Institute for Dutch History, The Hague
Institute for South East Asian and Caribbean Studies (KITLV) Leiden
Institute of Development Studies, Kolkata
Institute of Southeast Asian Studies
Institute of Urban Designers, India
International Institute for Environment and Development, London
London International Institute for Strategic Studies
Maritime Research Centre (MARE), University of Amsterdam
National Centre for English Cultural Tradition, Sheffield University
National University of Malaysia (UKM)
Papua New Guinea Oil Palm Research Association
Parahyangan University, Bandung
Royal College of Music
Royal Scottish Academy of Music and Drama
Singapore International Institute for Strategic Studies,
Stout Research Centre, Victoria University
University of Amsterdam Heritage Centre
University of Otago
University of Oxford
University of Sri Lanka
University of the South Pacific

Networks
API Network
ARC Asia Pacific Futures Research Network
ARC Cultural Research Network node
Australian Folklore Network
Council for Security Cooperation in the Asia-Pacific region (Au-CSCAP)
Gallipoli 2015
Research Network for a Secure Australia (RNSA)
The Centre’s seminar series continued with the theme, ‘People, Place and Power: Australia and the Asia-Pacific.’

The series aims to showcase the research of Centre members and visiting scholars on processes of transformation and change (political, social, cultural, environmental) in Australia, Asia and the Pacific.

The series also aims to encourage broader exchanges that draw out the theoretical and practical implications of multi-disciplinary research in this field, and to contribute to current debates on change in Australia, Asia and the Pacific.

The seminars provide a forum for Centre members to share research and pursue linkages across disciplinary and regional divides.

Papers from the seminar series will be published in an edited book in 2009.

The 2008 program was convened by Dawn Bennet, Miyume Tanji and Sue Summers and included the following presentations from Curtin researchers and staff from Murdoch University, University of Western Australia, University of Amsterdam:

Seminar 1: 6 March 2008
Dr Alexey Muraviev and Professor Colin Brown
Russia-Indonesia strategic rapprochement. Reasons, implications.

Seminar 2: 3 April 2008
Lucy Fiske and Karen Soldatic
Bodies ‘locked up’: Intersections of disability and race in Australian immigration.

Seminar 3: 29 May 2008
Dr Antonio Traverso and Dr Mick Broderick (Murdoch University)
Trauma Cinema: active witnessing of catastrophic historical events in Japanese and Chilean cinemas.

Seminar 4: 19 June 2008
Dr Miyume Tanji, Dr Aileen Hoath, & Dr Anne-Marie Hilsdon
Resilience in Communities: Indonesia, the Philippines and Okinawa.

Seminar 5: 7 August 2008
University of Amsterdam
Dr Nonja Peters and Professor Eric Ketelaar (University of Amsterdam)
Preserving the Present for the Future.

Seminar 6: 16 September 2008
Professor George Curry and Ms Gina Koczsberski
Finding common ground: negotiating access to land in the oil palm frontier of Papua New Guinea.

Seminar 7: 2 October
Dr Philip Moore
Association football in Perth, Western Australia.

Seminar 8: 20 November
Dr Scott Fitzgerald and Dr Michael Gillan (UWA)
The house always wins? Financialisation and international labour organisations.

Seminar 9: 5 December
Emeritus Professor Steve Rabson
(Brown University)
‘Minorities in Japan: Living Against the Myth of Homogeneity’.

In addition, a number of special collaborative seminars were presented, attracting significant numbers of attendees from academia, government, business and the community:

- July 28 ‘Counter-Terrorism - Responses to Extremist Ideology in the South East Asian Context’ was a joint presentation of CASAAP and Future Directions International featuring Christopher Heffelfinger, United States Military Academy West Point.

- October 2 ‘The Beijing Olympics in Transnational China: Politics, Economic Reforms and Media Games’ was hosted by the Centre and the Media in Asia Research Group (MARG). Speakers were Anne-Marie Brady (University of Canterbury, NZ), Prof Mobo Gao (University of Adelaide) and Wanning Sun.
In addition to the achievements noted above, a number of Centre members were honoured with awards, appointments and prestigious fellowships, including:

Linda Briskman and co-authors Susie Latham and Chris Goddard won the 2009 Human Rights Award for their *Human Rights Overboard*, published earlier this year by Scribe.

George Curry accepted an invitation to join the Australian Academy of Science’s National Committee for Geography to 2011.

George Curry and Gina Koczberski were presented with a commendation award in the 2008 Curtin New Inventors Competition Awards for their development of a new and more equitable payment system for oil palm smallholders in Papua New Guinea.

Alexey Muraviev won the Humanities RPI Award for Early Career Researcher with the Highest RPI Points for Publications.

Dawn Bennett accepted a nomination as a Commissioner for the Teaching and Learning Commission of International Society for Music Education (ISME), for a six-year term.

Graham Seal was joint winner of the National Biography Award for his historical biography, *These Few Lines: The Lost Lives of Myra and William Sykes*.

John Stephens and Alexey Muraviev were both made experts of international standing by the Australian Research Council (ARC) College of Experts, in Alexey’s case for the second year running.

Nonja Peters has been awarded a Fellowship under the Australia-Netherlands Exchange Program to The Royal Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences (KNAW) during 2009.

Paul Arthur received an excellence award from the PVC Humanities for his work in the field of e-humanities and digital history.

Paul Arthur has a Visiting Research Fellowship to HUMlab, Umeå University, Sweden for the academic year 09/10. HUMlab is one of the leading digital humanities centres in Europe.

This year the following visitors were welcomed to the Centre and its activities:

Dr Kenneth S. Chern United States Consul-General

Professor Emeritus Steve Rabson Department of East Asian Studies, Brown University

Mr Derek Staats Director Counter Terrorist and State Protection Portfolio

Mr Robert Mitchell National Trust of Australia (WA)

Andrew Pickford Research Manager Future Directions International

Dr Mick Broderick Murdoch University

Dr Eric Ketelaar University of Amsterdam

Christopher Heffelfinger United States Military Academy West Point

Dr Anne-Marie Brady, University of Canterbury, New Zealand

Professor Mobo Gao University of Adelaide

Professor Ross Taplin Curtin Business School

Professor David Andrich University of Western Australia

Professor Dani Stehlik, Alcoa Centre for Stronger Communities

Dr Michael Gillan University of Western Australia

Associate Professor Rob Cavanagh, Education

Dr Carmen Lawrence

The Hon Fred Chaney AO

Mr Guy Noble

Dr Michael Gillan (UWA)

Professor David Doepel (Murdoch University)